

## Bumper catch of mackerel

Heavy landings of mackerel *Rastrelliger kanagurta* in Pamban region during Oct-Dec. '91 were reported. Gill nets having mesh size 50-70 mm, (popularly known as No. 2 gillnets) and 80-90 mm (popularly known as No. 4 gillnets) jointly contributed the landings of 705.1 t of mackerel. The catch showed an increase of 643.9 tonnes over the corresponding

period of last year. The No.2 gillnets contributed to 86.8% of the total mackerel catch and the No. 4 gillnets contributed the rest of the landings. The catch per effort of mackerel for No. 2 and No. 4 gillnets were 104 kg and 51.4 kg respectively. The size ranged from 172-264 mm with mode at 220 mm. Females dominated the catch and were in spent condition.